

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Takaaki ENOMOTO et al.

Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: September 8, 2003

Docket No.: 117027

For: VEHICLE OCCUPANT PROTECTION APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. Relevance of the non-English language reference 1 is discussed in the present specification.
- ☒ 3. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language references 1-5 appears in the Appendix attached hereto.
- ☒ 4. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references 1-9 are attached hereto.
- ☒ 5. Computer-generated English translations of the following Japanese Patent Publications have been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([<http://www.jpo.go.jp>]), and are attached, but have not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 1-4, 6-9.

Respectfully submitted,



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Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 117027		APPLICATION NO. New U.S. Patent Application	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT(S) Takaaki ENOMOTO et al. FILING DATE September 8, 2003			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	
	1	JP A 2001-55105 w/ abst & transl	02/27/2001	Japan			
	2	JP A 200-247210 w/ abst & transl	09/12/2000	Japan			
	3	JP A 2000-211475 w/ abst & transl	08/02/2000	Japan			
	4	JP A 2002-19555 w/ abst & transl	01/23/2002	Japan			
	5	JP B2 2715528 w/ abst	11/07/1997	Japan			
	6	JP A 6-286581 w/ abst & transl	10/11/1994	Japan			
	7	JP A 2000-190815 w/ abst & transl	07/11/2000	Japan			
	8	JP A 2001-39268 w/ abst & transl	02/13/2001	Japan			
	9	JP A 2001-39269 w/ abst & transl	02/13/2001	Japan			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Date: September 8, 2003

APPENDIX

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

It is requested that the following document(s), a copy of which is attached herewith, be notified to the USPTO.

1. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application No.2001-55105

This patent document discloses an adjustment of a tension of a seatbelt in accordance with a degree of risk based on conditions regarding a vehicle speed, emergency braking, side slippage, etc., when a possibility of vehicle crash is detected.

2. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application No.2000-247210

This patent document discloses a technique to maintain an operational state when a pre-tensioner is operated when a possibility of vehicle crash is detected.

3. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application No.2000-211475

This patent document discloses a technique to determine whether to roll up a seatbelt in accordance with a state of use of the seatbelt.

4. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application No.2002-19555

This patent document discloses a technique to control a seatbelt by detecting a presence of CRS when a possibility of vehicle crash is detected.

5. Japanese Patent Publication No.2715528

A copy of the English language abstract of corresponding Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application No.2-246838 is attached.